

**Amendment to the Abstract:**

The Abstract has been amended. A revised Abstract is attached.

**ABSTRACT**

A method for determining the deterioration of a capacitor that increases the measurement accuracy to have an improved reliability is disclosed. In this method for determining the deterioration of a capacitor, the deterioration of a capacitor including a pair of electrode bodies and electrolytic solution provided between the electrode bodies is determined by applying an AC voltage to the capacitor to measure an impedance characteristic at a frequency of the AC voltage. An inflection-inflection point ~~(12)~~ appearing in the impedance characteristic due to the deterioration of the electrolytic solution is previously calculated to make comparison with an impedance value in the frequency region ~~(13)~~ lower than the inflection point ~~(12)~~, thereby determining the deterioration.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Lawrence E. Ashery, Reg. No. 34,515  
Attorney for Applicants

LEA/fp

Attachment: Abstract

Dated: January 12, 2006

P.O. Box 980  
Valley Forge, PA 19482-0980  
(610) 407-0700

The Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge payment to Deposit Account No. **18-0350** of any fees associated with this communication.

**EXPRESS MAIL: Mailing Label No.: EV 766 497 823 US**

**Date of Deposit: January 12, 2006**

I hereby certify that this paper and fee are being deposited, under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 and with sufficient postage, using the "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service of the United States Postal Service on the date indicated above and that the deposit is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

  
KATHLEEN LIBBY

ABSTRACT

A method for determining the deterioration of a capacitor that increases the measurement accuracy to have an improved reliability is disclosed. In this method for determining the deterioration of a capacitor, the deterioration of a capacitor including a pair of electrode bodies and electrolytic solution provided between the electrode bodies is determined by applying an AC voltage to the capacitor to measure an impedance characteristic at a frequency of the AC voltage. An inflection point appearing in the impedance characteristic due to the deterioration of the electrolytic solution is previously calculated to make comparison with an impedance value in the frequency region lower than the inflection point, thereby determining the deterioration.